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CONSTITUTIONAL POWER AND WORLD AFFAIRS. By George Sutherland: former United States Senator from Utah. New York: Columbia University Press.

Hitherto controversies regarding the Constitution of the United States have had to do with the distribution of powers between the various States and the central Government. Just now a new question has been raised—a question concerning the power of the Federal Government, or of any other governmental agency in this country, to do certain things at all. Does the Constitution, for example, permit, or does it by implication forbid, the Government of the United States to enter into such obligations with European nations as are by some deemed to be necessary for the future peace of the world? In assuming such obligations, necessary as they may be, shall we be straining the letter of the Constitution in order to adapt it to new conditions, or shall we be simply carrying out that course of evolution for which the framers of the instrument advisedly left the way fully open?

These questions are exactly answered by ex-Senator Sutherland in the course of his scholarly work, *Constitutional Power and World Affairs*. Mr. Sutherland draws a clear distinction between powers applicable to *internal* affairs and those necessary for the conduct of *external* affairs. Nor is the distinction artificial. It is ridiculous to suppose that in the distribution of powers between the States and the central Government, certain powers essential to a sovereign state were meant to be completely withheld and not conferred upon any agency whatever. By the Tenth Amendment powers, not delegated to the United States, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States or to the people: "In external affairs, however, there is no residuary agency; the sole agency capable of acting is the National Government. Is it not reasonable to assume that those who were so careful to avoid any lapse or loss of active power in the case of *internal* matters were equally solicitous in the case of *external* affairs? If this be answered affirmatively, as it must be, did their expression fall short of their meaning? To put the extreme case: If the framers of the Constitution have omitted to specify affirmatively some highly useful and important external power, is it therefore to be withheld by virtue of the doctrine which limits the general government to the powers expressly granted, and such as are auxiliary thereto?"

That the course of constitutional development, as well as common sense, approves a negative answer to this latter question, Mr. Sutherland shows through a somewhat detailed and strikingly clear review of historic facts.

The underlying doctrine is, of course, that the general government, as a creation of the people, must be supposed to be clothed with all the powers necessary for effecting the purposes for which it was brought into existence. No one has applied this principle with more rigorous exactness to a great variety of cases than has Mr. Sutherland.

It is noteworthy, however, that the author, while thus demonstrating and clearly expounding the powers of the general Government in relation to those external affairs which loom so large to-day, expresses pointed disapproval of the plan for a League to Enforce Peace. The Government *may*, it would appear, enter into such a league.

Whether it ought to do so is quite another question. Mr. Sutherland points out, with emphatic clearness, a frequently overlooked objection to the plan—the difficulty, in view of the adeptness of statesmen in shifting responsibility, of determining in any given war just which nation is really the aggressor: so plain a case as that of Germany's invasion of Belgium is not likely to occur again. Moreover he puts into a nutshell the true philosophy of those who oppose the League plan: "If the world has not advanced to such a period of respect for law and order as to insure submission to the decisions of an International Court of Justice, it has not reached the point where it may safely rely upon its own enduring adherence to any other plan of peace enforcement."

DUTCH AND ENGLISH ON THE HUDSON. By Maude Wilder Goodwin. New Haven: Yale University Press.

It is not usual to find so much literary charm and craftsmanship employed in the telling of an accurate and somewhat detailed historic narrative as one discovers in Mrs. Goodwin's story of colonial New York. The book may well be read for pleasure; yet any one who so reads it will be certain to gain some clear and definite ideas supported by facts—if it be only that Peter Stuyvesant was not the "valiant, weather-beaten, leathern-sided, generous-spirited old governor" of legend, but on the contrary a brutal tyrant and a religious bigot. The author corrects the view that the Dutch colonization in America was purely a commercial venture, and shows that in reality "the founding of New Netherland marked a momentous epoch in the struggle for the freedom of conscience." Very frequently, indeed, Mrs. Goodwin shows real breadth of historic thinking in conjunction with the interest in details of topography, of life, of character, and of government which properly characterizes the writer of a chronicle as distinct from the historian. The author's account, for example, of the old Red Sea pirates is extraordinarily picturesque and striking, but not at all in the nature of a mere peddling of romance. In these pages one may quite casually acquire such interesting bits of information as the derivation of the word *filibuster* or the word *buccaneer*, while at the same time one gets the effect of a coherent and well-compacted narrative. In writing this book, Mrs. Goodwin has evidently thought out all the facts anew, and her thought is as independent as her style is fresh. She has written a scholarly and entertaining narrative that is quite her own—a book, like the publications of the Yale University Press in general, written not for the market, nor for the glory of learning alone, but for value and service.